



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Johnny Key, Commissioner

CORRECTION: State level ACT Aspire results and 2015 national results have been corrected in the Excel document located at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/student-assessment/test-scores/year?y=2016>.

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ADE Releases Preliminary ACT Aspire Test Results

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education today released preliminary ACT Aspire test results for students in grades three through 10. ACT results for 11th-graders were released last Friday.

Arkansas administered the ACT Aspire for the first time earlier this spring. The 2016 scores represent a new baseline and are not intended for comparison to 2015 scores on the PARCC exam. The state will administer ACT Aspire again in 2017, which will provide two years of comparable test data.

A total of 289,705 students in grades three through 10 took 1,430,837 tests in five subject areas: English, math, reading, science and writing. Based on state averages combining all grades, the following percentage of students met ACT Aspire Readiness Benchmarks:

- **English:** 68 percent
- **Math:** 43 percent
- **Reading:** 39 percent
- **Science:** 38 percent
- **Writing:** 30 percent

Students in all grades who score at or above Ready on the ACT Aspire are on track toward meeting the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks in grade 11.

"I commend students and teachers for their hard work this past school year," ADE Commissioner Johnny Key said. "While these results are only one indicator of performance, they do show that we must continue to work together to meet educational excellence."

Readiness benchmarks for each subject area are divided into four performance levels. Students scoring in the Exceeding and Ready benchmark ranges met the readiness level in that subject area. Students who score in the Close or In Need of Support range are in need of additional assistance in those subject areas. The grade-level scale score ranges for each subject area are available in the Benchmark Score Ranges section under the Data Resources Tab in the ACT Aspire – Score Reporting LiveBinder on the ADE website: <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?present=true&id=1994764>.

The preliminary school and district aggregate scores are subject to review and possible appeal from school districts. Final, post-appeal results for schools and districts will be available in early fall.

Parents can expect districts to distribute student reports this fall. To better understand the scores for their child, parents are encouraged to review the document “Understanding Your ACT Aspire Results,” which is available at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/student-assessment/test-scores/year?y=2016>.

Teachers and administrators are encouraged to review the resources available in the LiveBinder on the ADE website at <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?present=true&id=1994764>. To assist teachers and administrators in interpreting and communicating score results, ADE will host 12 face-to-face trainings for districts. Information about the reports and intended uses will be provided at the trainings. Districts can learn more about the training at <http://adecm.arkansas.gov/ViewApprovedMemo.aspx?Id=1944>.

To see the statewide, district, and school ACT and ACT Aspire results, go to <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/student-assessment/test-scores/year?y=2016>.



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